



Nathaniel R. Vivians
Class of 1961

Nathaniel R. Vivians, a native of Fairhope, Alabama enrolled at Tuskegee University on the Five-Year Plan majoring in electrical engineering in 1955. Because of work and study, he did not pursue athletics until 1957 when he joined the varsity tennis team. In 1958 he switched to golf and helped to form the first known golf team at Tuskegee. Coach Ross Owens, who was the also the basketball coach, obtained golfing equipment and arranged for the team to practice at the Veterans Administration Hospital's sand greens. Nathaniel lettered three years in golf and was the team's leading scorer for two years. In 1959, he was selected Co-Captain and Captain in 1960. The team had winning seasons for three years competing against other southern colleges and universities including Clark, Florida A & M, Morehouse and Morris Brown.

Nathaniel excelled on the golf course and in the classroom. With his tenacity he was able to earn honor student status, compete in sports, and participate in extra curricular activities and ROTC, being commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant United States Air Force. His extra curricula activities included the volunteer fire squad, Engineering Society, Arnold Air Society, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Vivians earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1961 and later earned two Master of Science degrees in Engineering and Engineering Management from the University of Dayton. He also attended the Air War College in the United States Air Force.

After graduation, Vivians taught at Tuskegee University prior to entering the United States Air Force. In the Air Force he continued his path of hard work and excellence as an electronic engineer. He was responsible for the development of avionics. Vivians was also cited for saving the department of Defense \$1.3 billion through the use of standard and common avionics.

Vivians has committed him to a life of service through the numerous affiliations with professional, civic, religious and social organizations. He has provided leadership as president to several organizations including the Dayton Tuskegee Alumni Chapter and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Because of his love for golf he willingly donates golfing equipment and teaches youth how to play the game. He is a strong supporter of his alma mater; both he and his wife, Dorothy Willis Vivians, are Eminent Presidential Associates. Both of their children are graduates of Tuskegee, Venita, 1986, mechanical engineering and Mark, 1990, architecture. The Vivians were selected Parents of the Year at Tuskegee in 1988.